



# NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

## **National Weather Service Boston/Norton Announces Radar Outage Due To Major Upgrade of Critical Radar Components**

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Beginning May 11, 2020, the KBOX WSR-88D operated by NOAA's National Weather Service in Norton, MA will be down for approximately two weeks for an important upgrade. Technicians will refurbish and replace the pedestal, one of the most critical components of the radar, which is necessary for antenna rotation and positioning to capture data in all directions.

The radar and pedestal were designed to last 25 years, and this radar has exceeded its life-span. This activity is necessary to keep the radar functioning for another 20 years or more.

The pedestal refurbishment is the third major project of the NEXRAD Service Life Extension Program, a series of upgrades that will keep our nation's radars viable into the 2030s. NOAA's National Weather Service, the United States Air Force, and the Federal Aviation Administration are investing \$135 million in the eight year program. The first project was the installation of the new signal processor and the second project was the refurbishment of the transmitter. The fourth project will be the refurbishment of the equipment shelters. The Service Life Extension Program will be complete in 2023.

During the approximate two week downtime, radar coverage for the area will continue to be available from adjacent radars, including NWS Gray ME (KGYX), NWS Albany (KENX), NWS New York City (KOKX) and the FAA's Boston Terminal Doppler Radar (TBOS). For direct access to any of these surrounding radar sites, visit the following web page:

<https://radar.weather.gov/>

The KBOX WSR-88D is part of a network of 159 operational radars. The Radar Operations Center in Norman, Oklahoma, provides lifecycle management and support for all WSR-88Ds.

The National Weather Service in Norton/Boston can be found on the web at [weather.gov/boston](https://weather.gov/boston) and on social media via facebook (facebook.com/NWSBoston) and on Twitter (@NWSBoston).